

SUNY New Paltz Department of Music Presents



**Music Without Borders**

**New Music Ensemble**

**Studley Theatre**

**Tuesday, Nov. 12**

**7:30 p.m.**

# — Program —

New Music Ensemble  
led by Dr. Phyllis Chen

“Clapping Music”

Steve Reich  
(b.1936)

performed by NME

“13 Changes”

Pauline Oliveros  
(1932-2016)

performed by Experiments in Comp class:

Emma McCoy, voice  
Ben Cherry, piano  
Victor Scoppa, synthesizer  
Jacob Bernstein, e guitar  
Will McPhee and Julian Slavin, guitar  
Enzi Pascarella, alto saxophone  
Jacob Kenny, trumpet  
Maya Ramirez, bass

“In C”

Terry Riley  
(b.1935)

performed by CME

with special guests: Bob Lukomski (synth), Jesse Stacken (pno)  
Rebecca Coup Franks (trumpet)

**\*BREAK\***

Student works:

“Echoes”  
“Distefano”  
“Confluence”  
“Roll With It”

Elizabeth Margit

Julian Slavin  
Jacob Kenny

The New Music Ensemble is dedicated to performing contemporary works by living composers and members of the ensemble. In its inaugural semester, it seems fitting to perform Terry Riley's seminal work, "In C," as the centerpiece of the evening. This open instrumentation work allows for an ensemble of any size and instrumentation to gather and play short melodic fragments repeated at the discretion of the performers. Together, the ensemble creates an interlocking pattern that is unique to each time it is performed. "In C" is often cited as the first minimalist composition to reach significance to a larger public audience. It is probably performed some place every day by any assortment of musicians of different instrumentations and musical backgrounds.

"In C" was premiered Nov. 4, 1964 at the San Francisco Tape Center. Two of the performers involved in the world premiere were Steve Reich and Pauline Oliveros, whose works are also featured on tonight's program. The idea of a repetitive C pulse that becomes the metronome of the work was first suggested by Steve Reich, which radically changed the piece into a pulse-driven work. Oliveros and Riley met in the same composition class in 1956 at San Francisco State College and became lifelong friends. They explored ideas of improvisation and both contributed key innovations to the San Francisco Tape Center. Though "In C" is not a "tape" work, the use of loops is central to how the piece is constructed. We can feel the spirit of community and collaboration in these stories of "In C." Using this beautiful structure as a model, the ensemble will create and compose their own version of "In D" later in the semester.

For spring 2025, the New Music Ensemble will feature a world premiere by our 2025 Davenport Artist, Nathan Davis. Students will perform a new work Davis writes specifically for the ensemble, along with some of his other electro-acoustic works. If you are interested in being part of the ensemble next semester, please contact Dr. Phyllis Chen at [chenp@newpaltz.edu](mailto:chenp@newpaltz.edu). The spring concert will be held April 1, 2025.

### **Fall 2024 New Music Ensemble consists of:**

Gabriella Bleakley (vla)

Benjamin Cherry (pno)

Llewana D'Silva (vla)

Elizabeth Distefano (fl)

Eva Fisher (gtr)

Gregory Hakobian-Leone (pno)

Nicola Kelly (vln)

Jacob Kenny (trpt)

Vincent Mandracchia (e gtr)

Logan Parmerter (pno/glock)

Enzi Pascarella (sax)

Durante Poole (fl)

William Romeo (drums/vibes)

Julian Slavin (gtr)

Bryce Swiader (vla)

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